

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please enter the following amendments to the specification.

Please replace paragraph [0040] with the following amended paragraph:

In the present embodiment, quantization level +1 is coded as symbol {11}, while level 0 is represented by symbol {01}, and level -1 is finally represented by symbol {00}. Accordingly, a symbol associated with a particular quantization level directly represents the average signal value of that quantization level by the coding mechanism of the digital signal converter 50. This coding form makes it possible to generate the single-bit output signal in a very efficient manner by a collection of four D-type Flip Flops 21, 22, 25 and 26, a dual-input multiplexer 26 and XOR gate 27. D-FF 25 is operative to halve a clock frequency provided on the clock input 25a wherein the clock frequency signal may have been derived from the external clock signal terminal 61 (FIG. 1). Optionally, a DC voltage generating means 90 can be disposed within the microphone housing and operatively coupled to the external clock signal 27. D-type FFs 21 and 22 operates on half the clock frequency of D-type FF 26 that generates the single bit output signal or bit-stream and the Nyquist criterion is exactly complied with by direct coding and conversion of incoming multi-bit samples.